

# DESERT AIRMAN

Vol. 73 Issue 18

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

Friday, May 6, 2005



## D-M Airmen excel, set the example, sweep awards

By Stephanie Ritter  
355th Wing Public Affairs

2004 proved to be an award winning year for Davis-Monthan with personnel and various groups across the base receiving more than 90 nods from higher commands for outstanding job performance.

"I am proud to be part of such a talented, dedicated and professional team spanning all organizations across the installation," said Col. Michael Spencer, 355th Wing commander.

The list of awards includes individuals receiving recognition at Air Combat Command or Air Force levels to squadrons selected for the overall structure and function of their shops.

"Each one of these awards speaks volumes about the strength of character and tenacity our people show and the dedication they put forth on a day-to-day basis," Colonel Spencer said.

Chief Master Sgt. Chuck Talley, the new 355th Wing command chief, said he was blown away by the number of awards the Desert Lightning team earned.

"I knew Davis-Monthan was the place to be stationed because the people here set the bar high," Chief Talley said. "These awards prove that when it comes to D-M, the people up top are watching and they are impressed with what they see. I look forward to meeting all the Airmen at D-M and being part of their award-winning team."

The winners are featured in this edition of the *Desert Airman* from page 1 to 23.

(Right) **1st Lt. James Parker**, 355th Services Squadron, practices throwing a hammer. He participated in the sport as part of the 2004 Olympic Team, and was named the **U.S. champion**. Lieutenant Parker won the **2004 Air Force Male Athlete of the Year Award**. The best advice he has received in his career is, "Be yourself and use your talents to benefit the Air Force."



Photo by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte



Courtesy photo

## Governor Janet Napolitano's official seal of approval

Governor Janet Napolitano awarded the staff of the Airman's Attic the Governor's Volunteer Service Award, small business category, April 18. The award recognized the Airman's Attic for its outstanding volunteer-based program. The Airman's Attic is a non-profit organization comprised of active-duty and civilian volunteers. Its mission is to provide support to the men and women of the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marines. In addition to its mission, the Airman's Attic also provides continuous support to other agencies, including Davis-Monthan Civil Air Patrol, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Tucson, Brewster's House for Women and Children of Domestic Violence, and the Marshall House for Men. Donations to the Airman's Attic go to their customers free of charge. Those items not used on base are donated to the World Care Relief Foundation and the Salvation Army, along with various other off-base agencies.

## Swan Road Gate opens for traffic Monday

The Swan Road Gate opens Monday to all Davis-Monthan traffic. The gate has been closed for several months due to construction. The gate hours are as follows: Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m. The gate is closed holidays and weekends. The Wilmot Road Gate remains open 5:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and is closed holidays and weekends. The Craycroft Road Gate is open 24 hours, seven days a week.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle

Airman 1st Class Nicole Zermeno (left), 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, discusses the day's schedule with Col. Michael Spencer, 355th Wing commander, in his office April 28.

### D-M Award Winners

This week, we recognize the outstanding Desert Lightning Airmen and devoted civilians who captured 12th Air Force, MAJCOM and Air Force level awards. The list includes 15 numbered Air Force, 66 MAJCOM and nine Air Force level awards. Wow!

Our higher headquarters recognized some winners for their personal achievements. Clearly, these performers have set the pace for our operations.

Other individuals have been recognized for their performance as a team or unit. Each person can be rightly proud of how they contributed to their group in capturing the award.

Some winners gained recognition for what

they've done while here at Davis-Monthan. Others performed magnificently while deployed overseas, supporting our nation's efforts to defeat terrorism.

Whether at home or abroad ... as an individual or team ... these exceptional performers share some common traits. They are dedicated, professional, committed and talented. Of those I've talked to, none said that they started out intending to win. All just sought an opportunity to contribute the best they could to get the mission done. In my book, that's the hallmark of a winner.

These awards are also a tribute to leadership — my thanks to the commanders and supervisors. You have developed and nurtured these

Airmen and civilians. You have made sure that they had the resources and training to perform to the best of their potential. You've empowered them and trusted them to get the job done.

Finally, you took the time to capture their accomplishments on paper with the awards package. That last task is not easy ... but it is central to what I expect of those in a leadership position.

To the families of the award winners ... thanks. I appreciate the sacrifices that you have made over the past year to allow these outstanding performers to serve.

Those recognized on the pages that follow will likely tell you they would never have won these awards without the strong support of their teammates. That is the real strength of our Desert Lightning Team, whether at the work center, flight, squadron or group level, strong teams can accomplish great things.

To the winners ... congrats! I am honored and proud to serve with you.

Ideas, suggestions, comments, concerns and kudos are important to make improvements. The Commander's Corner phone line is 228-4747. An e-mail can also be sent to: 355thWing.CommandersCorner@dm.af.mil. Callers must leave their name, phone number and a message. They will receive a prompt reply in writing or by telephone. We will honor caller confidentiality, but sometimes we need to contact callers to gather additional information. If a concern is of general interest to the base populace, the response may be published in the *Desert Airman*.

### Agency numbers

AAFES Agencies.....	228-3904	Inspector General.....	228-3558
Accounting and Finance.....	228-4964	Legal.....	228-6432
Chaplain.....	228-5411	Lodging.....	228-4845
Civil Engineering.....	228-3401	Military and Civilian Equal	
Clinic.....	228-2930	Opportunity Office.....	228-5509
Commissary.....	228-3116	Military Personnel.....	228-5689
Family Support.....	228-5690	Public Affairs.....	228-3204
Fitness and Sports Center.....	228-0022	Security Forces.....	228-6178
Haefner Fitness Center.....	228-3714	Services.....	228-5596
Housing Office.....	228-3687	Transportation.....	228-3584

## Davis-Monthan Unit Public Affairs Representatives

Unit Public Affairs Representatives are the "eyes and ears" of the 355th Wing Public Affairs office. Each squadron has unique individuals that have interesting stories to tell, whether it is about sports, awards, lifesaving acts, IDEA program contributions, etc. UPARS are responsible for getting the information to PA in a usable format and in a timely manner.

If there is a UPAR not listed here, or a unit at Davis-Monthan not represented in the following list, contact the Desert Airman staff at 228-5092 or send an e-mail to the Desert Airman staff at [desert.airman@dm.af.mil](mailto:desert.airman@dm.af.mil).

### D-M Unit Public Affairs Representatives

#### Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Center

Terry Vanden-Heuvel.....228-8448

12th Information Warfare Squadron

Senior Airman Kalliah Peterson.....228-0703

25th Operational Weather Squadron

2nd Lt. Jon Schiefelbein.....228-1977

2nd Lt. Makishma Cabo.....228-6674

41st Electronic Combat Squadron

Capt. Adam Blanchard.....228-9870

Airman 1st Class Jon McCormick.....228-9838

43rd Electronic Combat Squadron

2nd Lt. Michael Dow.....228-9088

Capt. Josh McIntyre.....228-9141

372nd Training Squadron

Staff Sgt. Kenneth Meyers.....228-6132

305th Rescue Squadron

(Air Force Reserve Command)

Tech. Sgt. Ruby Zarzczycki.....228-2160

354th Fighter Squadron

1st Lt. Donald Bugg.....228-7521

Airman Spencer Chambliss.....228-4268

355th Aerospace Medicine Squadron

Staff Sgt. Angela Salyers.....228-2713

Staff Sgt. James Velez.....228-2737

355th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

2nd Lt. Danyll Bethelmy.....228-2121

Senior Master Sgt. John Spronk.....228-0194

355th Civil Engineer Squadron

2nd Lt. David Calkins.....228-3522

355th Component Maintenance Squadron

1st Lt. Lori Pluchinsky.....228-3630

Capt. Anthony Rivera.....228-4093

355th Comptroller Squadron

1st Lt. Yolanda Glenn.....228-0777

Senior Airman MaryJane Conley.....228-2209

355th Contracting Squadron

1st Lt. Gayle Barajas.....228-5476

355th Dental Squadron

Capt. Lenny Arias.....228-2644

### 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

1st Lt. Andrew Slaughter.....228-8214

Tech. Sgt. Joseph Ford.....228-4172

355th Logistic Support Squadron

Senior Airman Tiffany Woods.....228-3792

355th Logistic Readiness Squadron

2nd Lt. James Oriani.....228-1130

Staff Sgt. Luis Vela.....228-5394

355th Maintenance Operations Squadron

Maj. Matthew Mangan.....228-4206

Master Sgt. Ronald Dyer.....228-5583

355th Medical Operations Squadron

Staff Sgt. Hilda Rios.....228-2600

355th Medical Support Squadron

2nd Lt. Julie Kena.....228-2801

355th Mission Support Group

1st Lt. Dennis Smith.....228-4631

Senior Airman Stacey Hunsley.....228-3445

355th Operations Support Squadron

2nd Lt. Raymond Page.....228-6011

Senior Airman Noel Navarro.....228-6014

355th Security Forces Squadron

Senior Master Sgt. John McCormick.....228-4791

355th Services Squadron

Chris Sweeney.....228-7352

355th Training Squadron

Lt. Col. Michael Weldon.....228-5888

355th Wing Chapel

Capt. Matthew Beards.....228-5411

Staff Sgt. Tiffany Heath.....228-3088

357th Fighter Squadron

Airman 1st Class Ryane Chatman.....228-4724

358th Fighter Squadron

Capt. Brian Wigton.....228-5961

Staff Sgt. Cathy Register.....228-3692

755th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Robert Motz.....228-9472

Capt. Christa Bjerken.....228-9548

755th Operational Support Squadron

Airman 1st Class Matthew Mason.....228-9028

607th Air Control Squadron

Master Sgt. Rocky Ellingsworth.....DSN 896-7496

612th Air Intelligence Squadron

Staff Sgt. Jessica Clark.....228-2386

Tech. Sgt. Heather Maddaleno.....228-2386

The 355th Wing Public Affairs staff prepared all editorial content for the *Desert Airman*. The editor will re-write material for clarity, brevity or to conform with the Associated Press Style Guide, local policy and Air Force style as required by Air Force Instruction 35-101. Contributions for the *Desert Airman* can be made directly to the 355th Wing Public Affairs Office, Building 2300, Suite 2054, or through e-mail to [desert.airman@dm.af.mil](mailto:desert.airman@dm.af.mil). The editor can be reached at 228-5714. Submission deadlines are Wednesday, nine days prior to publication date. If submissions are publishable, they run based on space available and priority. Unless otherwise noted, photographs are Air Force photos. The *Desert Airman* uses information from the Armed Forces Information Service, Air Force News Service, Air Combat Command and other sources. All advertising is handled by Aerotech News and Review, 456 East Ave. K-4, Suite 8, Lancaster, Calif. 93535; phone (520) 623-9321; e-mail [diane@aero-az.com](mailto:diane@aero-az.com).



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Photo by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte

(Above) **Staff Sgt. Thomas Puckett**, 355th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, performs a cost and analysis report. Sergeant Puckett won the **2004 Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Thomas N. Barnes Award**. The best advice he has received in his career is, "If you don't support the mission, you are the enemy."

(Below left) **Master Sgt. John Brindley**, 12th Air Force, stands by a C-130. Sergeant Brindley won the **2004 Air Force Transportation Staff Enlisted Manager of the Year Award**. The best advice he has received in his career is, "Know your job, do your job and tell the truth and you will go a long way in this Air Force."



Photo by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte

(Below right) **Airman 1st Class Anthony Jett**, 612th Air Intelligence Squadron, plays softball during sports day. Airman Jett won the **2004 Air Force Outstanding Active Duty Intelligence Airman, Level 1 Award**. The best advice he has received in his career is, "Don't concern yourself with what others do or don't do. Do your best performing your job and everything else will fall in place."



Photo by Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle

## News Notes

### Daily mass discontinued

Daily mass and rosary will be discontinued effective May 16 until further notice. For more information, contact the base chapel at 228-5411.

### Overseas assignment listing

The Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing for overseas requirements for the January to March 2006 cycle is now available online. Preferences must be updated by May 20. To view the listing, visit the Air Force Personnel Center Web site at <https://afas.afpc.randolph.af.mil/amsweb/master.cfm>.

### Commissary case lot sale

The Davis-Monthan commissary will hold a case lot sale May 13 to 15. Products will be sold in bulk quantities at greater than average discounted rates. For more information, contact Jerry Copenhefer at 790-4341 or [jerry.copenhefer@deca.mil](mailto:jerry.copenhefer@deca.mil).

### AETC briefing comes to D-M

The Air Education and Training Command Special Duty Assignment Team will host a Special Duty Assignment briefing for individuals interested in becoming a Recruiter, Military Training Instructor, Military Training Leader, Technical Training Instructor or Professional Military Education Instructor May 19 in the First Term Airman's Center, Building 4101 at 8:30 a.m.

The team can expedite the processing of an applicant's special duty application if they bring the completed application with them to the briefing.

To obtain a copy of the AETC special duty application, contact the Wing Career Advisor, Senior Master Sgt. Crystle Flowers, at 228-0141.

### Legal office summer hours

The following summer hours for legal assistance are now in effect:

Walk-ins are Monday from 1 to 4 p.m., appointments are Wednesday from 1 to 4 p.m. and will signing by appointment are Tuesday from 2 to 3 p.m. and Friday from 9 to 10 a.m.

Services for Notaries, Powers-of-Attorney and In Lieu tax forms are daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The legal office will assist deploying service members anytime.

Military in uniform have priority the first hour of each session. For more information, or to make an appointment, call 228-5242.

### MPF closure

All 355th Mission Support Squadron facilities will close at 3:30 p.m. today for an official unit function. Normal operating hours for all 355th MSS facilities will resume Monday morning.



(Right) **Airman 1st Class Katrina Castilla**, 355th Services Squadron, inventories linen at a deployed location. Airman Castilla deployed recently in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. She also won the **2004 Air Force Innkeeper Traveller's Award**. The best advice she has received in her career is, "It's not about the awards and medals; it's about who you helped along the way."



Courtesy photo



Photo by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte

(Left) The **355th Services Squadron** won the **2004 Air Force Innkeeper Award Trophy for both Air Combat Command and Air Force levels** for the Inn at Davis-Monthan and the **2004 ACC Air Force Services Program/Flight Award** for their fitness and sports program. The 355th SVS offers a full range of both military and community support programs for the Davis-Monthan community. Programs such as dining facilities, libraries and fitness centers directly support the unit-readiness mission by providing a physically and mentally fit force. Other services programs support overall military readiness and preparedness as they provide for the basic needs of D-M personnel in a hostile or contingency environment. Their community service programs support the family unit and contribute to individuals' social development and enjoyment. The family support and quality of life initiatives help attract and retain a quality force.





Photo by Airman 1st Class Veronica Pierce

**The 355th Civil Engineer Squadron received the 2004 Air Force Explosive Safety Award, the 2004 Air Combat Command Robert J. Curtin Award, the 2004 Maj. Gen. Benjamin D. Foulois Memorial Award and the Multi-Agency Plan Award for the Arizona Chapter of the American Planning Association for its Joint Land-Use Study. The primary responsibility of the 355th CES is operating and maintaining Davis-Monthan's airfield, facilities and infrastructure in support of the flying mission. It**

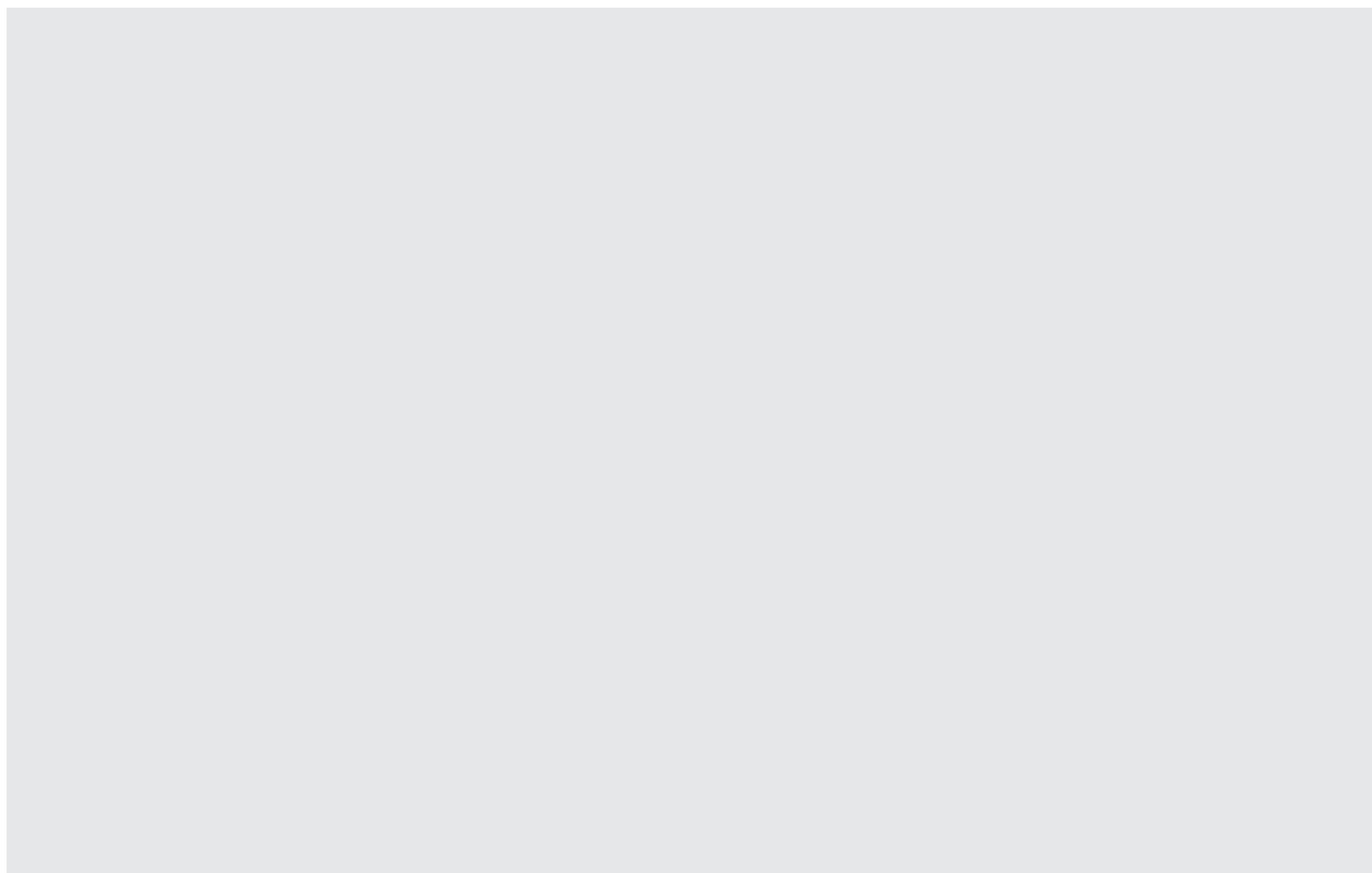
**manages and maintains approximately 1,440 facilities, including more than 1,250 housing units. In addition to the craftsmen and engineers, CES is comprised of firefighters, explosive ordnance technicians, readiness managers, environmentalists and its own resource managers. The squadron trains the 355th Wing on chemical warfare defense and disaster preparedness while maintaining its own deployable teams to support the expeditionary Air Forces in operations across the globe.**

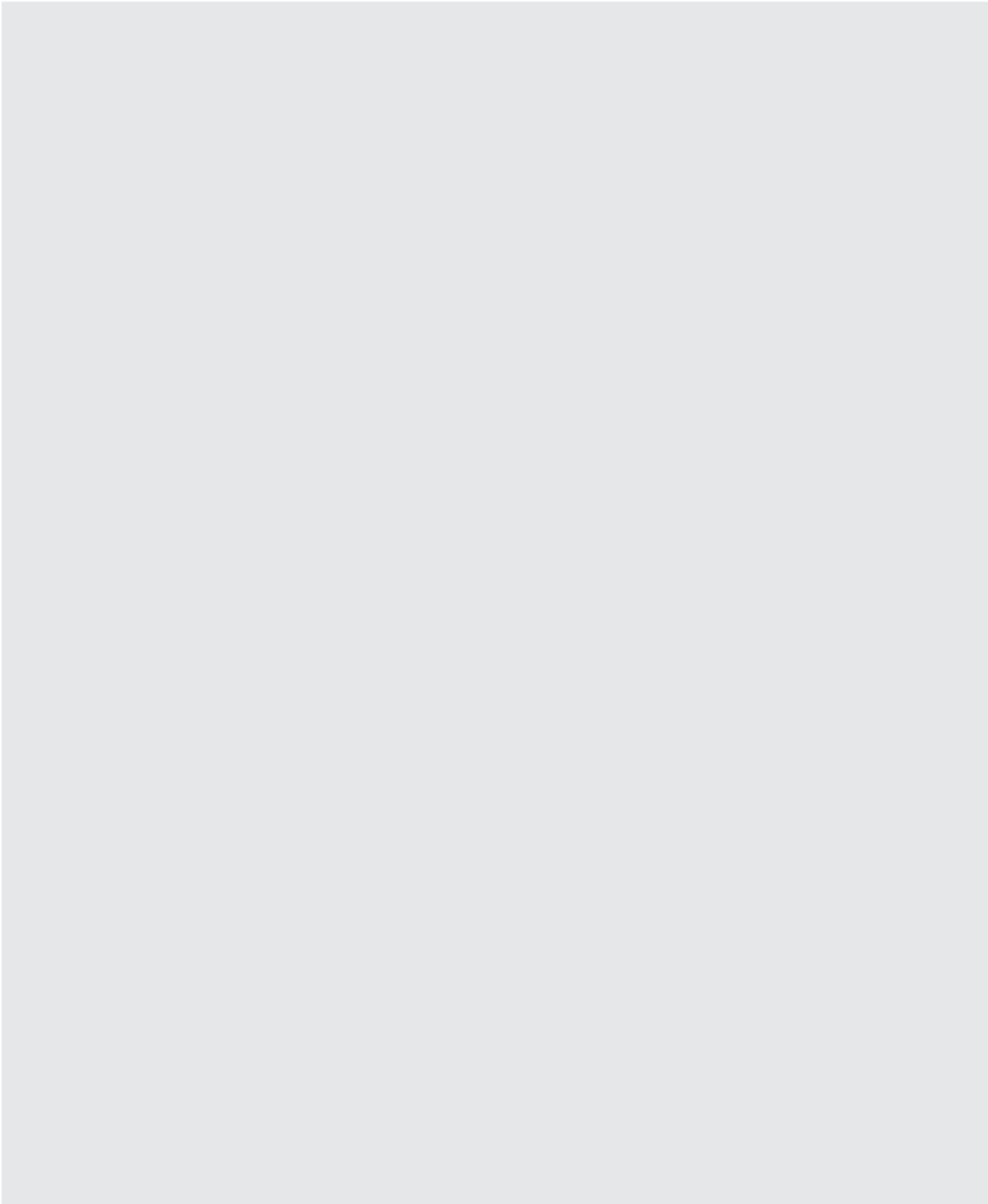


Photo by Airman 1st Class Veronica Pierce

*The 355th Aerospace Medicine Squadron received the 2004 Air Combat Command Team Aerospace Award. The squadron provides vital healthcare services to foster a strong, fit fighting force for the entire 355th Wing and all its tenant organi-*

*zations. It also promotes preventative medicine programs to maintain maximum Air Force readiness and monitors the environment and occupational work areas for hazards while supporting worldwide contingency operations.*





(Right) The **355th Medical Support Squadron Medical Resource Management Office** received the **2004 Air Combat Command Outstanding Resource Management Team of the Year Award**. The Resource Management Office is responsible for the preparation, management and execution of \$19.8 million operations and maintenance budget and a purchase care budget exceeding \$28 million. The office is also responsible for the administration of the medical service account, third party collection, third party liability, medical expense reporting, data quality, business analysis, and medical manpower programs. Resource management also monitors performance metrics, provider productivity, cost-effectiveness and efficiency of ongoing operations.

(Below) The **355th MDSS Laboratory** received the **2004 Air Combat Command Outstanding Laboratory Team, Category 2 Award**. The lab is responsible for performing expedient specimen testing in the prevention and treatment of disease, supporting medical mobility requirements for worldwide deployments, and providing for rapid detection and identification of bioterrorism agents.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte



(Right) The **355th Medical Operations Squadron Physical Therapy Element** received the **2004 Air Combat Command Physical Medicine Team of the Year Award**. The physical therapy shop provides quality, cost-effective physical therapy to Davis-Monthan patients. It also supports the mobility mission of the 355th Medical Group through wartime readiness by maintaining and promoting a physically healthy active-duty population and promoting wellness and injury prevention. It is responsible for training and educating students, patients and staff. Services provided by the Physical Therapy Element include patient evaluation, patient treatment, exercise, functional training, patient education and more.







Photo by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte

**The 355th Medical Operations Squadron primary care flights received the 2004 Air Combat Command Outstanding Clinical Optimization Award.** The 355th MDOS and primary care flights provide healthcare for the military community to ensure

maximum wartime readiness and combat capability through superb prevention and intervention. The squadron's functions include primary care, pediatric, women's health, surgical, physical therapy, mental health and basic specialty services.



Photos by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte

(Left) The **355th Contracting Squadron** received the **2004 Air Combat Command Small and Disadvantaged Business Special Achievement Award**. The contracting squadron directs contracting programs in excess of \$56 million annually for the acquisition and administration of commodities, services and construction requirements in support of the 355th Wing and tenant units including 12th Air Force and the Aerospace and Maintenance Regeneration Center. The squadron manages one of the largest Government Purchase Card programs in ACC, which is valued at more than \$26 million.

(Below) The **25th Operational Weather Squadron** received the **2004 Air Force Weather Merewether Award for most significant technical contribution**. The weather squadron relays timely, accurate and relevant environmental and weather-related information into western continental United States and the U.S. Southern Command commander, aiding military operations to maximize mission accomplishment.





(Right) The **Base Education and Training Office** received the **2004 Air Combat Command Nathan Altshuler Award for the Best Education and Training Office**. The education office operates and maintains training and educational programs to support the overall mission of ACC, assigned Air Force units, and the career, educational and professional development of all assigned personnel. They also provide information on numerous accredited universities and enrollment procedures.

(Below) The **612th Air Intelligence Squadron** received the **12th Air Force Outstanding Active Duty Intelligence Unit Award**. The 612th AIS is responsible for providing Combined Force Air Component Command, Combined Air Operations Center and subordinate forces predictive and actionable intelligence that drives joint and coalition force employment within the U.S. Southern Air Forces area of responsibility and other AORs as directed for contingencies and exercises.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte



Courtesy photo



*The **43rd Electronic Combat Squadron** won the **2004 Air Force Flight Safety Plaque** and the **2004 Air Combat Command Aircrew of Distinction Award**. The 43rd ECS accomplishes the Compass Call mission. It operates and maintains EC-130 H aircraft. It is a vital member of the electronic warfare capabilities of the Air Force and is*

*poised for rapid deployment to specific theater contingencies. The unit's combat mission is to support tactical air, ground and naval operations by confusing enemy defenses and disrupting its command and control capabilities. The area of responsibility for the 43rd includes locations in Pacific Air Forces and European Command.*





**The 355th Wing Staff Judge Advocate Office received the 2004 12th Air Force Best Claims Office Award and the 2004 12th Air Force Best Administrative Discharge Program.** The judge advocate office provides legal counsel to commanders on all matters affecting the installation and the mission, including such areas as: military

justice, administrative actions, ethics, operations law, environmental law, claims, contracts, civil law and labor law. The office provides legal assistance to active-duty members, their dependents and the sizable military retiree population in the Tucson area. Legal also prepares wills, powers of attorney, notary service and more.

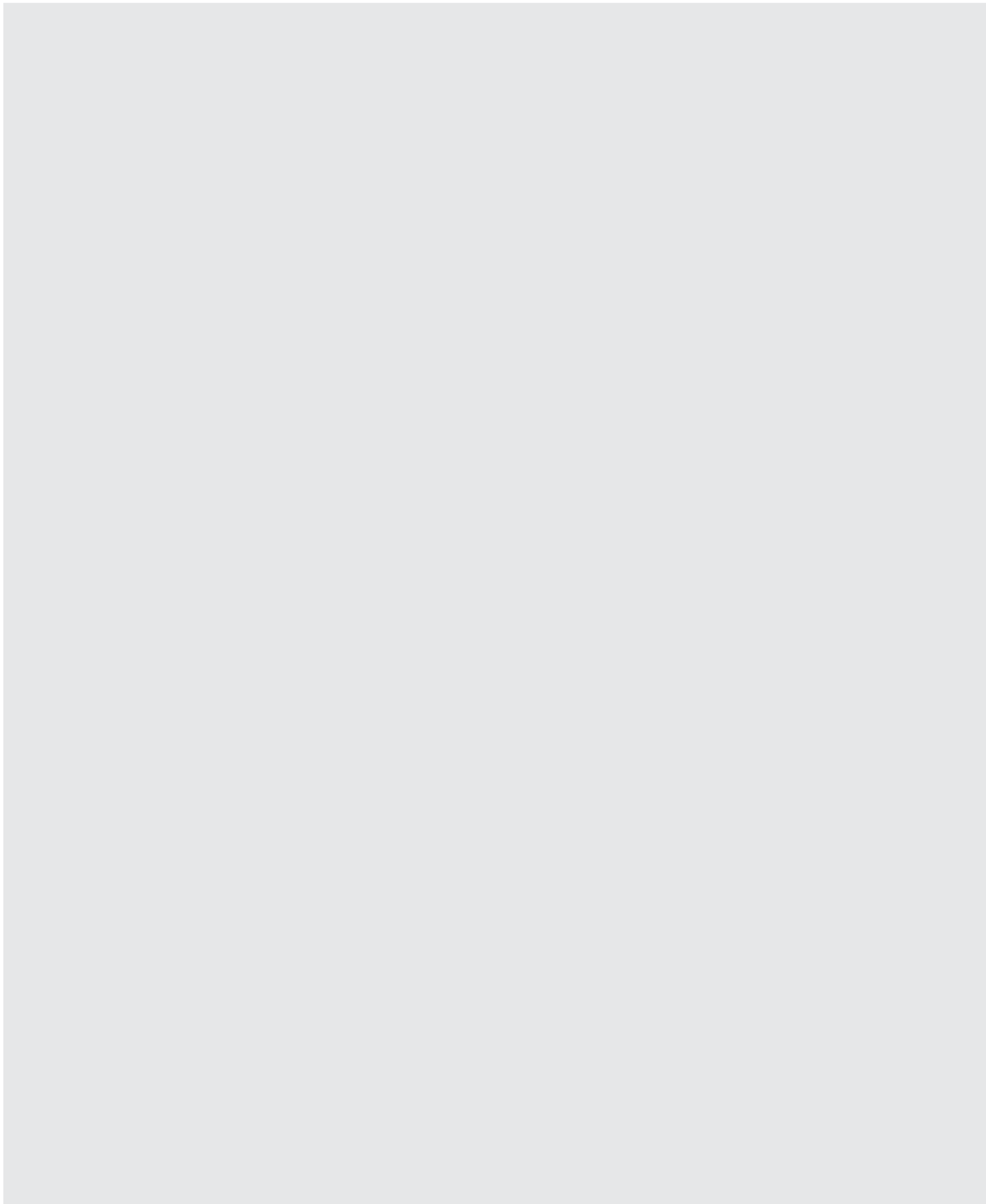






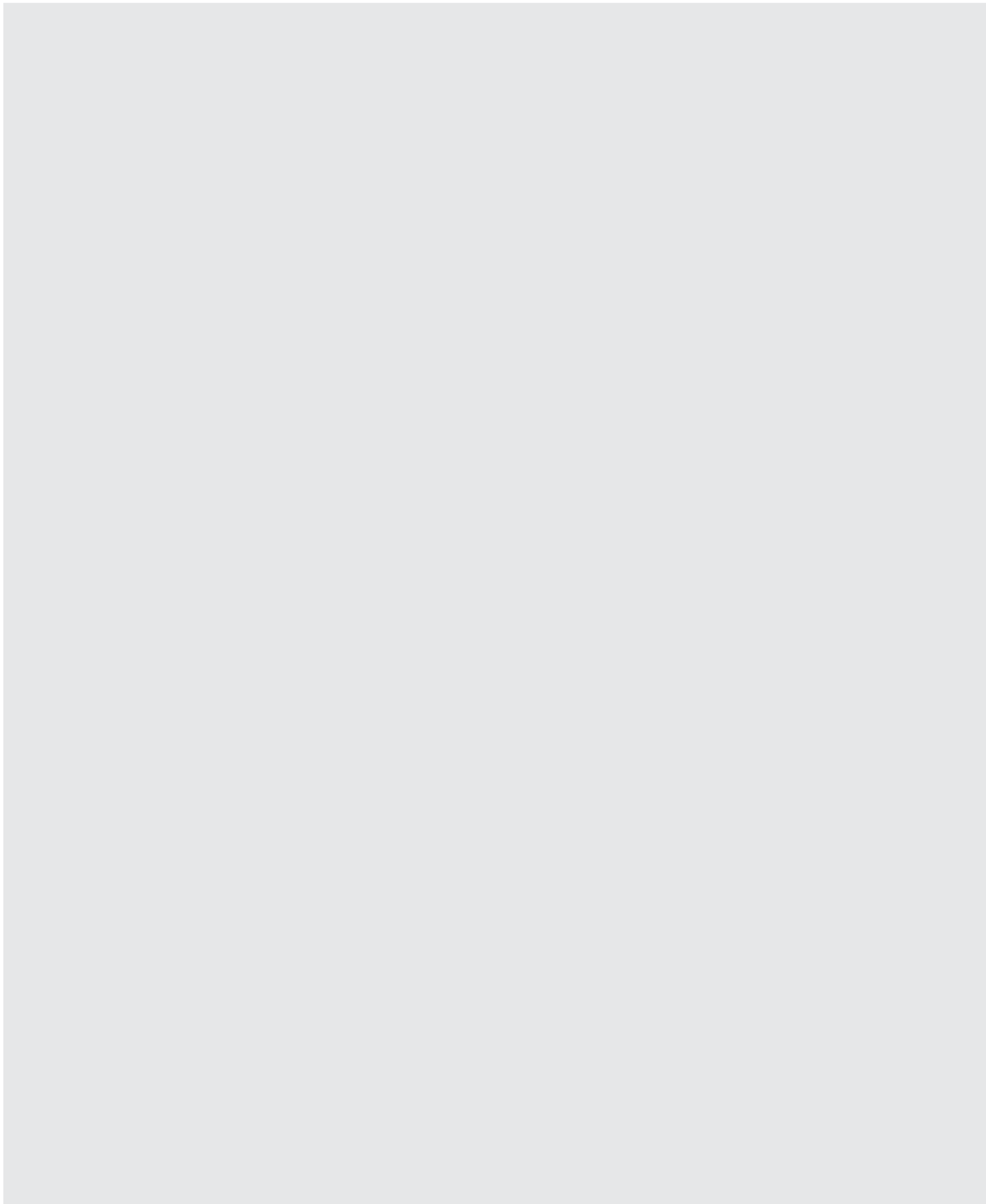
Photo by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte

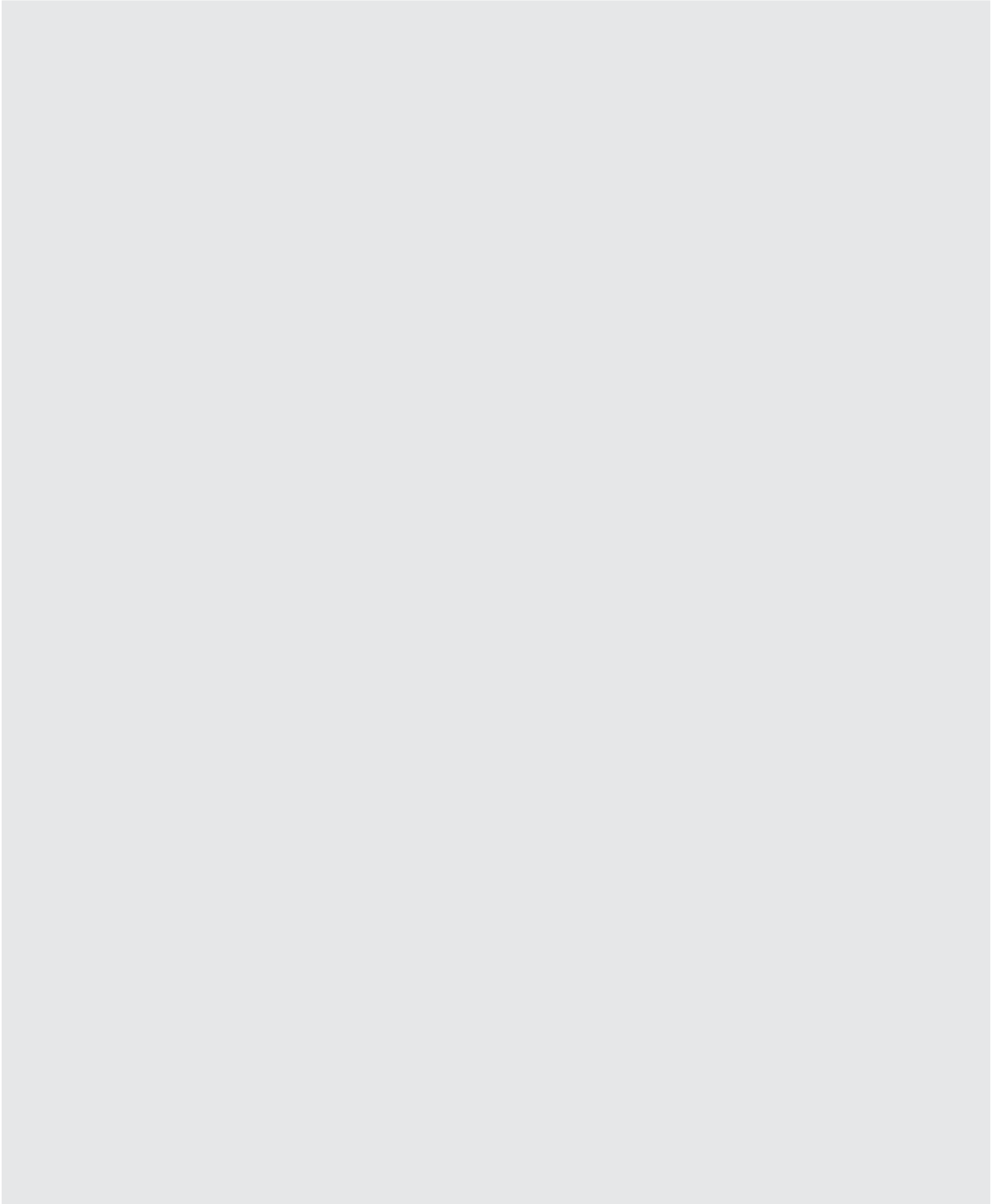
(Above) The **55th Rescue Squadron** received the **Air Force Special Operations Command Safety Flight of the Year Award**. The 55th operates the HH-60G Pavehawk and provides rapidly deployable combat search-and-rescue forces to theater commanders worldwide. They tactically employ the HH-60 helicopter and its crew in hostile environments to recover downed aircrew and isolated personnel day or night. The squadron also conducts civil search and rescue, disaster relief, international aid, emergency medical evaluation and counter-drug activities.

(Below) The **79th Rescue Squadron** received the **Air Force Special Operations Command Distinguished Safety Award of the Year**. The 79th operates the HC-130P/E Hercules and provides rapidly deployable search-and-rescue forces to theater commanders worldwide. It conducts helicopter air refueling, airdrop and airland of pararescue personnel and equipment in support of combat personnel recovery. Its crews are capable of landings on short, unimproved runways and low-level operations during day or night with night vision goggles.

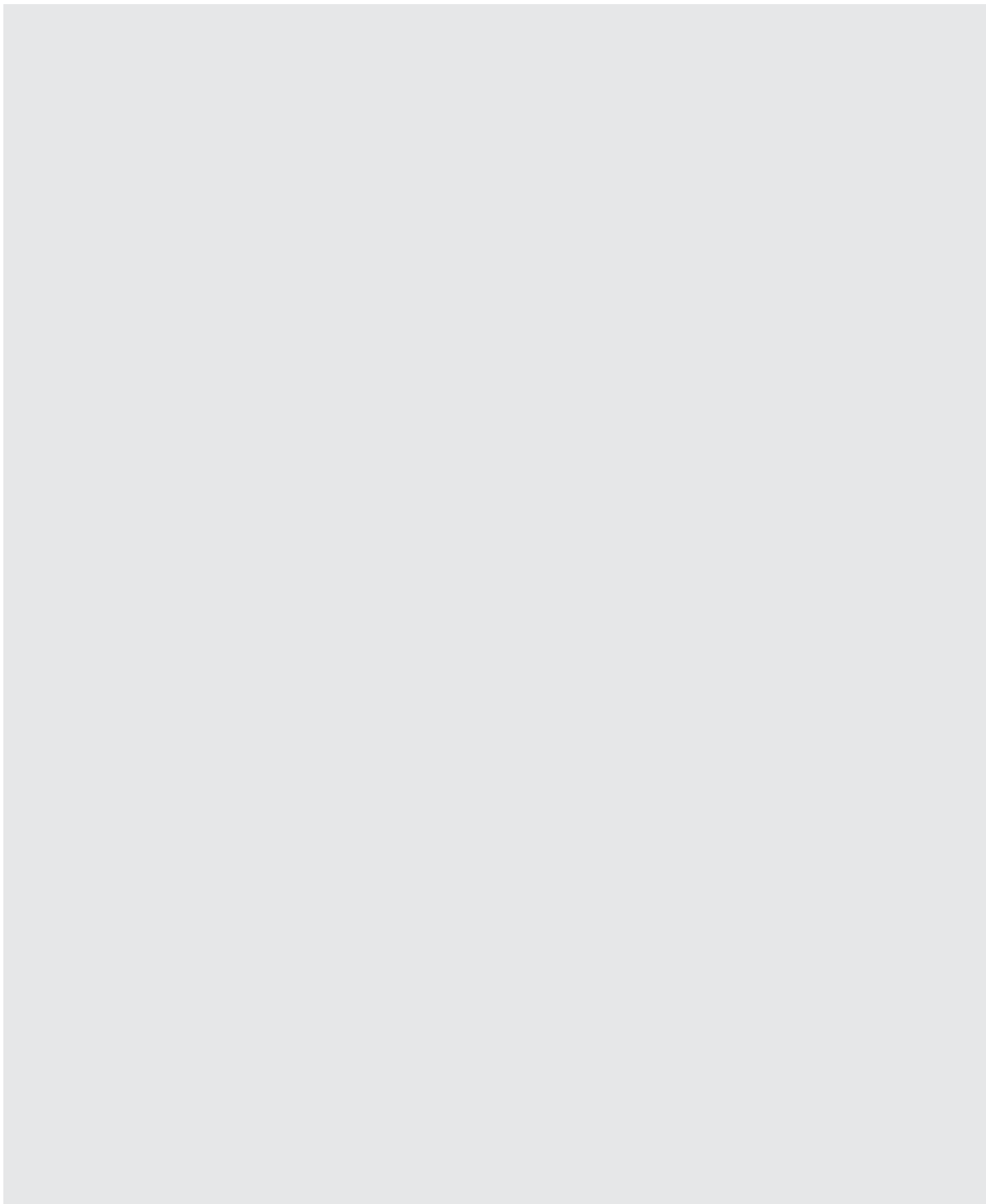


Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jeremiah Erickson









# Members of Team D-M prove their drive to excel

## Individuals obtain command, numbered AF recognition

The following individuals pictured on the next four pages are members of the Davis-Monthan team who were selected as command-level and numbered Air Force-level award winners during 2004. Each winner was asked the question, "What is the best advice you have received during your Air Force career?" Their responses are listed here along with their rank and squadron at the time the awards were given.



**Air Combat Command  
2004 Bioenvironmental  
Airman of the Year**  
**Senior Airman  
Mirabel Alvarado**  
355th Aerospace  
Medical Squadron

"Take advantage of Air Force education programs."



**ACC Aviation Resource  
Airman of the Year**  
**Senior Airman  
Toni Bayne**  
355th Operations  
Support Squadron  
"Work as a team."



**12th Air Force Lt. Gen.  
Leo Marquez Outstanding  
Munitions/Missile  
Maintenance NCO  
of the Year**  
**Tech. Sgt. David Currie**  
355th Maintenance  
Squadron

"My father told me that if you always give your best at everything you do, you will be a success."



**ACC Aviation Resource  
NCO of the Year**  
**Tech. Sgt. Ralph Betts**  
355th OSS

"A good NCO gives 100 percent every day and teaches their subordinates to excel to their highest potential."



**ACC Transportation  
Civilian Technician  
of the Year**  
**Angie Davis**  
355th Logistics  
Readiness Squadron

"Excellence can be achieved if you risk more than others think is safe, love more than others think is wise and expect more than others think is possible."



**ACC Firefighter of the  
Year Heroism Award**  
**Airman 1st Class  
Christopher Ashley**  
355th Civil  
Engineer Squadron

"Don't let any opportunities slip through your fingers such as education, training and deployments."



**ACC Women in Federal  
Law Enforcement and  
Julie Y. Cross  
Memorial Award**  
**Airman 1st Class  
Kristy Boguslaw**  
355th Security  
Forces Squadron

"Learn to keep a positive attitude, learn from mistakes and have pride in yourself to succeed."



**12th Air Force Out-  
standing Active Duty  
Intelligence  
Field Grade Officer**  
**Lt. Col. James Edmonds**  
612th Air  
Intelligence Group

"Work yourself out of a job — you do this by building an environment so that your Airmen don't need you when you leave."



**ACC Individual Services  
Civilian Manager Award**  
**Daniel Baker**  
355th Services Squadron

"Treat people how you want to be treated. Integrity is not just a word but a personality trait. The level of integrity an individual displays determines their career success."



**12th Air Force Out-  
standing Active-Duty  
Intelligence Company  
Grade Officer**  
**Capt. Brian Collard**  
612th Air  
Intelligence Squadron

"Work hard, play hard; but don't do one when you should be doing the other."



**2004 ACC Instructor  
of the Year for  
12th Air Force**  
**Capt. Clinton  
Eichelberger**  
357th Fighter Squadron  
"Everything in moderation."

## Not pictured but not forgotten

For a variety of reasons, including permanent changes of station, deployments or separations from the military, the following 2004 command-level and numbered Air Force-level D-M award winners were not able to be pictured or quoted in this section of the *Desert Airman*.

**Air Force Air Combat Command  
Information Operations Award**  
**Capt. Philip Acquaro**  
755th Operations Support Squadron

**Outstanding Active-Duty Informa-  
tion Operations Senior NCO**  
**Master Sgt. Paul Costinet**  
12th Air Force

**12th Air Force Outstanding Judge  
Advocate General Reservist**  
**Maj. Sue Ellen Schuerman**  
355th Wing

**12th Air Force Outstanding Officer  
Intelligence Contributor**  
**Capt. Celeste Rodriguez**  
612th Air Intelligence Group



**ACC Civilian Firefighter  
of the Year**  
**Amy Erickson**  
355th Civil  
Engineer Squadron

"You determine what becomes of your career. Take advantage of the opportunities that come about and act on them."



**ACC Logistics Plans  
Civilian of the Year**  
**Steven Hargrove**  
355th LRS

"The best advice I received was, 'use the education benefits (in the military) to get a bachelor's degree.' It took me almost 10 years in all but it was well worth it."



**Air Force Special Operations  
Command  
Tactician of the Year**  
**Maj. Mike Hinsch**  
79th Rescue Squadron

"Document everything."



**ACC Daedalian  
Exceptional Pilot**  
**Capt. Jeffrey Frantz**  
43rd Electronic  
Combat Squadron

"Success within the Air Force and the success of the Air Force depends on one thing: the people around you."



**ACC Group Practice  
Manager of the Year**  
**Maj. Robert Harris**  
355th MDOS

"Keep things in perspective, be part of the solution and maintain balance between duty, family, spiritual, fitness and education."



**ACC Airfield Management  
NCO of the Year**  
**Tech. Sgt. David Johnson**  
355th OSS

"Senior Master Sgt. Rick Morgan told me, 'If you're going to do it, do it right the first time.'"



**2004 ACC Communications,  
Information  
Outstanding 3CXXX  
Senior NCO**  
**Master Sgt.  
Kenneth Gammons**  
612th Air Communications  
Squadron

"Seek out people with positive attitudes and the drive to accomplish the mission and surround yourself with them."



**2004 Lieutenant General  
Leo Marquez Award  
for ACC Civilian  
Technician**  
**William Hatten**  
355th Equipment  
Maintenance Squadron

"When I was 18 my Dad said, 'Respect is something you earn, never act above the way you were raised and no sweat no money.'"



**AFSOC Survival Evasion  
Resistance Escape Tier 2  
NCO of the Year**  
**Master Sgt.  
Bryan Kasmenn**  
563rd Operations  
Support Squadron

"In life as well as in escape and evasion, the destination must be more important than the obstacles."



**2004 Air Force  
Exceptional Innovator  
of the Year for ACC  
Senior Airman**  
**Charissa Gayou**  
355th Component Maintenance  
Squadron

"From Chief Master Sgt. Keith Cobb I learned, 'Don't count the days, make the days count ... Hooty hoo.'"



**ACC Outstanding  
Laboratory NCO  
of the Year**  
**Tech. Sgt. Robin Hawkins**  
355th MDSS

"Take responsibility for your actions, be humble and do the right thing even when no one is watching."



**ACC Logistics Readiness  
Instructor of the Year**  
**Master Sgt.  
Richard Kerlavage**  
355th LRS

"The price of freedom is eternal vigilance. So, we must be prepared and ready to deploy."



**ACC Outstanding  
Laboratory Senior NCO  
of the Year**  
**Master Sgt. James Green**  
355th Medical  
Support Squadron

"Those people who tell you that something is impossible to accomplish are the same individuals who are mad because they failed to accomplish it."



**Air Force Reserve  
Component Senior NCO  
of the Year for ACC and  
Security Forces Individual  
Mobilization Augmentee  
SNCO of the Year for ACC**  
**Master Sgt. Lee Hays**  
355th SFS

"Put into the Air Force what you think you deserve to get out of the Air Force."



**2004 ACC Annual  
Acquisition Award for  
Outstanding Contingency  
Contracting  
Enlisted**  
**Tech. Sgt. Gary Kimmel, Jr.**  
355th Contracting  
Squadron

"Every job is a self-portrait of the person who does it. Autograph your work with excellence."





**ACC Air Force Information Operations Award Program Enlisted Award Senior Airman Jason Kneier**  
43rd ECS

"Don't sweat the small stuff and it's all small stuff."



**ACC Unit Safety Award of Distinction Staff Sgt. Jose Marroquin**  
755th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

"When you are presented with a problem, step back and take a deep breath and then tackle the problem head-on."



**ACC Manpower FGO of the Year Maj. Carolyn Patrick**  
355th Mission Support Squadron

Currently deployed. Quote unavailable as of publication date.



**8th Air Force CGO of the Year Capt. Josh Koslov**  
41st Electronic Combat Squadron

"Prior to my first sortie during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 I was told, 'When you get shot down tonight, make sure you follow your Combat Search and Rescue procedures.'"



**ACC Security Forces Staff Support SNCO of the Year Master Sgt. Ami Masaniai**  
355th SFS

"Ensure you maintain balance in the four main areas of your life: personal (home), physical, spiritual and work (career)."



**ACC 2004 Bioenvironmental NCO of the Year Tech. Sgt. Ricky Poppe**  
355th AMDS

"Always lead by example and ensure you take care of your troops."



**12th Air Force Outstanding Active Duty Intelligence SNCO Master Sgt. John Labadan**  
612th AIS

"Observe and learn. There are opportunities to learn in every assignment and from every supervisor or mentor. At the very least, learn what not to do as you progress."



**1st Place in the ACC Media Contest for Contribution by Contractor/Stringer for Photography Staff Sgt. Lanie McNeal**  
355th Communications Squadron

"Remember your name is attached to anything you do."



**12th Air Force Outstanding Senior Intelligence Civilian Thomas Reeder**  
612th AIS

"If you have a tasking – Do It! Don't put your leadership in the position of ever doubting that you will accomplish the tasks you have agreed to perform."



**12th Air Force Outstanding Active Duty Intelligence NCO Staff Sgt. Christopher Long**  
612th AIS

"I'm a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more I have of it." — Thomas Jefferson



**ACC Dental SNCO of the Year Senior Master Sgt. Brian Medaugh**  
355th Dental Squadron

"The best way to accomplish the mission is to take care of your team, your boss and your family."



**Air Force Intelligence Award for 12th Air Force Airman 1st Class Zachary Ripp**  
355th OSS

"Be a leader, not a follower."



**ACC Enlisted Aircrew Member of the Year and 8th Air Force Operational Warrior Flight Engineer Senior Master Sgt. Ron Mansfield**  
43rd ECS

"You need to learn to follow effectively, before you can lead effectively. Support your people and supervisors and they will support you."



**ACC Biomedical Equipment Repair SNCO of the Year Senior Master Sgt. Craig Morse**  
355th MDSS

"Always be thankful for the blessings in your life and treat people with dignity."



**Air Force Services Senior NCO of the Year ACC (IMA) Individual Award Senior Master Sgt. John Ruggiero**  
355th SVS

"The needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few."



**ACC Innkeeper Traveler  
of the Year**  
**David Ruiz**  
355th SVS

"Let your desire to be the best continue to drive you and that in turn will always allow the guest to continue to receive the Outstanding Customer Service."



**ACC Field Grade  
Optometrist of the Year**  
**Maj. Christine Stabile**  
355th AMDS

"Take good care of your supervisor, subordinates and patients and they will take good care of you."



**12th Air Force 2004  
Airlift/Tanker  
Association Young  
Leadership Award**  
**Tech. Sgt. William Whited**  
612th Air  
Operations Group

"Work hard, be yourself and listen to your fellow Soldiers (Airmen) and you will do great things in the military."



**2004 Lieutenant  
General Leo Marquez  
Award, ACC Outstanding  
Munitions/Missile  
Maintenance Person of  
the Year**  
**Maj. Daniel Runyon**  
355th Equipment  
Maintenance Squadron

"Take care of your troops and they'll take care of you."



**ACC Installation  
Spectrum Manager  
of the Year**  
**Staff Sgt.  
Thomas Tedesco**  
355th CS

"When faced with a problem or challenge, just KISS - Keep It Simple Stupid."



**1st Place in the ACC  
Media Contest for  
News Article**  
**Staff Sgt. Russell Wicke**  
355th Wing

"Nothing good ever comes after the proclamation, 'Hey guys, watch this!'"



**AFSOC Pararescueman  
NCO of the Year**  
**Staff Sgt. Patrick Ryan**  
48th Rescue Squadron

"Sometimes it's best to keep your mouth shut."



**Pierce Award, ACC  
Weather Award for  
NCO Forecaster**  
**Tech. Sgt. Paul Walker**  
355th Operations  
Support Squadron

"Always take care of the Air Force's, and your, most important asset — the people."



**ACC Arthur S.  
Flemming Award**  
**Tech. Sgt. Thomas Wilson**  
355th MSS

"I once had a Chief tell me a quote from General Eisenhower, 'You don't lead by hitting people over the head — that's assault, not leadership.'"



**12th Air Force  
Outstanding Enlisted  
Intelligence Contributor**  
**Staff Sgt. Derrin Sewer**  
612th AIS

"Take care of your Airmen and they'll take care of you."



**Air Force Material  
Command Depot  
Maintenance Manager  
of the Year**  
**Doreen Wells**

*Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Center*

"Accept responsibility for everything you do and never ask people to do what you are not willing to do yourself."



**ACC Unit Safety Award  
of Distinction**  
**Tech. Sgt.  
James Yelverton**  
755th AMXS

"Don't stress out on the small stuff and when major things happen take a moment to think things through and then do your best to handle it."



**ACC Airfield Manager  
Civilian Supervisor  
of the Year**  
**Alberto Smith**  
355th OSS

"Take care of your people and they will always take pride in the mission."



**Southern Command  
Medic of the Year**  
**Master Sgt. Matt Wells**  
48th RQS

"The needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few."



**ACC Clinical Laboratory  
Scientist of the Year**  
**Maj. Julie Zwies**  
355th MDOS

"If you don't know how to do something, say so, but also be willing to learn, including from your subordinates. It helps you both grow."

## Award winner recap

# Congratulations again to our outstanding performers

A special thanks and job well done to all the 2004 award winners from Davis-Monthan. Their stellar performance exemplifies hard work and dedication. The following squadrons, groups and organizations all recieved either group level or individual awards from all levels of command. Desert Lightning ... Strikes!

### 12th Air Force

25th Operational Weather Squadron  
612th Air Communications Squadron

### 612th Air Intelligence Group

612th Air Intelligence Squadron

### 355th Wing Staff

### 355th Operations Group

355th Operations Support Squadron  
357th Fighter Squadron

### 355th Mission Support Group

355th Civil Engineer Squadron  
355th Communications Squadron  
355th Contracting Squadron  
355th Logistics Readiness Squadron  
355th Mission Support Squadron  
355th Security Forces Squadron  
355th Services Squadron

### 355th Maintenance Group

355th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron  
355th Component Maintenance Squadron  
355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron  
355th Maintenance Squadron

### 355th Medical Group

355th Aerospace Medicine Squadron  
355th Dental Squadron  
355th Medical Operations Squadron  
355th Medical Support Squadron

### 55th Electronic Combat Group

41st Electronic Combat Squadron  
43rd Electronic Combat Squadron  
755th Operations Support Squadron  
755th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

### 563rd Rescue Group

48th Rescue Squadron  
55th Rescue Squadron  
79th Rescue Squadron  
563rd Operations Support Squadron

### Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Center



Courtesy graphic